

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

The undersigned thanks the Examiner for the telephone interview of January 22, 2009. The arguments presented in the interview are included below.

Claim 29 recites a semiconductor memory device having a plurality of semiconductor memory cards, each semiconductor memory card having first edge portions along the lengths of two parallel edges which are thinner than a central portion of the semiconductor memory card. Further, claim 29 recites that the semiconductor memory device has a housing having second edge portions along the lengths of two parallel edges which are thinner than a central portion of the housing, and that two semiconductor memory cards are disposed flat and adjacent to each other so that one of the first edge portions of each of the two semiconductor memory cards lies in a respective one of the second edge portions of the housing. Such a semiconductor memory device is not disclosed by Liu.

The Examiner indicated in the interview that the grounds for the rejection of claim 29 in the Office Action of November 5, 2008 were not valid. In particular, as agreed in the interview, Liu does not disclose that each semiconductor memory card has first edge portions along the lengths of two parallel edges which are thinner than a central portion of the semiconductor memory card, and that two semiconductor memory cards are disposed flat and adjacent to each other so that one of the first edge portions of each of the two semiconductor memory cards lies in a respective one of the second edge portions of the housing.

Further, the deficiencies of Liu are not obviated by Klatt, Matsumoto, Hsueh, or Asom. Thus, it is submitted that claim 29 is allowable over the prior art of record, as are claims 30-40 depending therefrom.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is clearly in condition for allowance. An early notice thereof is earnestly solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels that there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Haruo OHTA et al.

/Aldo A. D'Ottavio/

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